

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 02027 161641Z

47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /087 W

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R 161538Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3061

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS ALGIERS 2027

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTIO, AG

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECTS: FRENCH CONFIDENCE ASSAILED BY ALGERIANS

1. AFTER RECENT VISIT TO ALGERIA AND CONVERSATIONS WITH MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND ENERGY ABDESSELAM, FRENCH MINISTER OF EXTERIOR COMMERCE, NORBERT SEGARD, MADE STATEMENTS TO FRENCH PRESS INDICATING FRENCH CONFIDENCE IN OBTAINING SEVERAL PENDING MAJOR PROJECT CONTRACTS IN ALGERIA. IN AN INTERVIEW IN FRENCH WEEKLY "L'USINE NOUVELLE", SEGARD SAID NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN FRENCH FIRMS AND ALGERIAN AUTHORITIES WERE GOING WELL AND REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO AUTOMOBILE PLANT, INDUSTRIAL VEHICLE PLANT, ALUMINUM PLANT AND TIRE PLANT CONTRACTS.

2. ALGERIAN PRESS REACTED QUICKLY TO FRENCH HINTS THEY WILL OBTAIN THESE CONTRACTS. EL MOUDJAHID SEPT 12 FEATURED FRONT PAGE ARTICLE WITH RED HEADLINE "NO OPTIONS TAKEN" WHICH DENIED GOA PREFERENCE FOR FRENCH FIRMS FOR THESE PROJECTS. ARTICLE STATED NEGOTIATIONS WERE UNDERWAY WITH FIRMS FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES AND NO DECISIONS YET MADE.

3. THIS IS SECOND TIME IN RECENT MONTHS THAT ALGERIANS HAVE REBUKED THE FRENCH FOR MAKING POSITIVE STATEMENTS ABOUT THEIR CHANCES FOR WINNING MAJOR CONTRACTS. GOA SEEMS UNCLASSIFIED

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TO BE HYPERSENSITIVE TO ANY STATEMENTS BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

OR FIRMS THAT THEY HAVE INSIDE TRACK ON SPECIFIC PROJECTS.

PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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